

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3457

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UN AORG NO TU

SUBJ: NARCOTICS--POST OF DIRECTOR OF UN DIVISION NARCOTIC
DRUGS

REF: GENEVA 5895

1. AMBASSADOR BENNETT HAD LENGTHY AND FRANK TALK WITH
UNDER SECRETARY GENERAL DAVIDSON MORNING JULY 28 RE MARTENS'
DEPARTURE FROM DND AND PROSPECTS FOR HIS REPLACEMENT.
DAVIDSON CONFIRMED MARTENS' DEPARTURE SEPTEMBER 30 AND SAID
MARTENS, AFTER A FAIR AMOUNT OF BACKING AND FILLING, HAS
NOW PUT IT IN WRITING.

2. DAVIDSON MENTIONED FOLLOWING AS CANDIDATES FOR POST:

NORWEGIAN BRAENDEN AND HUNGARIAN BAYER. HE MADE NO REFER-
ENCE EITHER TO WHO OFFICIAL LING OR TOGOLESE JOHNSON-
DAGBEGNIKIN. HE SAID HE HAD HEARD OF THE POSSIBILITY THAT
KANDEMIR OF TURKEY MIGHT ALSO BE CANDIDATE BUT AGREED THAT
PUTTING A TURK IN CHARGE OF NARCOTICS WOULD BE LIKE PUTTING
THE FOX IN CHARGE OF THE CHICKEN HOUSE. HE COMMENTED THAT
KANDEMIR IN HIS PRESENT POSITION SERVED INTERESTS OF THE
TURKISH GOVERNMENT MORE THAN HIS UN EMPLOYER. DAVIDSON
WAS ALSO AWARE OF INTEREST OF SOME, INCLUDING SYG'S
DAUGHTER, IN ARRANGING FOR POLISH DND DEPUTY DIRECTOR MICUTE
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TO SERVE AS ACTING DIRECTOR. DAVIDSON EXPRESSED

OPPOSITION TO THIS ON GROUNDS MICUTE NEARING RETIREMENT AGE, ALTHOUGH HE STRESSED HE CONSIDERED MICUTE FIRST-RATE PERSON AND WELL QUALIFIED.

3. BENNETT REVIEWED WITH DAVIDSON APPROPRIATE PORTIONS REFTEL AND LATTER SAID HE WAS GLAD TO HEAR OF OUR STRONG SUPPORT FOR BRAENDEN. HE WENT ON TO SAY, HOWEVER, THAT THERE ARE MANY OTHERS IN ADDITION TO SYG'S DAUGHTER--AND THIS INCLUDES WINSPEARE--WHO HAVE STRONG DOUBTS RE BRAENDEN'S CAPACITY AS ADMINISTRATOR. DAVIDSON HAS A FAVORABLE IMPRESSION OF BRAENDEN AND SAID PERHAPS BEST WAY TO HANDLE MATTER WOULD BE FOR HIM TO TRY TO PERSUADE WINSPEARE TO APPOINT BRAENDEN AS ACTING DIRECTOR AND TRY HIM OUT IN THAT CAPACITY. DAVIDSON WENT ON TO SUGGEST THAT SUPPORT FOR OTHER GOVERNMENTS FOR BRAENDEN WOULD HAVE USEFUL EFFECT. IN SUM, DAVIDSON HIMSELF IS WELL DISPOSED TOWARD BRAENDEN, BUT THERE IS CONSIDERABLE DOUBT OF HIM IN VARIOUS QUARTERS, AND DAVIDSON WOULD BE GLAD TO SEE NORWEGIANS MOBILIZE SUPPORT FOR BRAENDEN'S CANDIDACY.

4. ON ANOTHER MATTER, DAVIDSON SAID THAT SECRETARIAT HAD RECEIVED DIRECT APPROACH FROM REPRESENTATIVE WOLFF ASKING FOR UN OFFICIAL TO COME TO WASHINGTON TO TESTIFY BEFORE WOLFF'S SUBCOMMITTEE LOOKING INTO TURKISH NARCOTICS ACTIVITIES. DAVIDSON EMPHASIZED THIS MADE DIFFICULT PROBLEMS FOR UN AND HE WOULD LIKE TO AVOID THIS. HE WOULD BE GLAD FOR UN TO ANSWER QUESTIONS BUT BELIEVES THEY SHOULD BE CONVEYED THROUGH NORMAL CHANNELS OF DEPARTMENT AND USUN. HE ASKED IF DEPARTMENT COULD GIVE SOME HLEP ON THIS.
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